

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A method of curing comprising:  
providing a first object;  
providing a second object;  
placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to a malleable portion of  
5 said first object, wherein said sheet is rigid and substantially resists bending;  
placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to a non-malleable  
portion of said second object;  
placing said first object, second object and sheet into a container;  
and  
10 removing gas from said container where bridging occurs;  
where said bridging extends from said second object to said  
sheet.

2. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1 where said step of  
placing said first object, second object and sheet into a container comprises:  
placing a sheet having coefficient of thermal expansion less than  
13.7 x10<sup>-6</sup> inch/inch degree Fahrenheit per inch into said container, wherein  
said sheet is rigid and substantially resists bending.

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3. (original) The method of Claim 1 where said step of removing  
gas from said container where bridging occurs comprises:  
attaching a pump to said container;  
removing gas from said container; and

5                    providing a pressure within said container between 25 inches of mercury to 29 inches of mercury.

4.        (original)        The method of Claim 1, further comprising:  
                 placing said container into an auto-clave; and  
                 providing a pressure between 45 pounds per square inch and 150  
pounds per square inch on the outer surface of said container.

5.        (original)        The method of Claim 1, further comprising:  
                 placing said container into an auto-clave; and  
                 providing a temperature between 250 degrees Fahrenheit and 450  
degrees Fahrenheit.

6.        (original)        The method of Claim 1, further comprising:  
                 positioning said sheet where said sheet extends between 0.25  
inches to 0.50 inches from said second object.

7.        (withdrawn)    A product of the process defined in Claim 1.

8.        (withdrawn)    A method of curing comprising:  
                 providing a first object having a malleable portion;  
                 providing a second object having a non-malleable portion;  
                 placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of  
5    said first object;

                 placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to said non-malleable  
portion of said second object;

                 placing said first object, second object and sheet into a container;  
and

10                    removing gas from said container where bridging occurs;

where said bridging extends from said second object to said first object.

9. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 where said step of placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of said first object comprises:

5 placing a first side of a titanium sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of said first object.

10. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 where said step of placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of said first object comprises:

placing a first side of said sheet adjacent to an uncured stringer.

11. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8, where said step of placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to said non-malleable portion of said second object comprises:

placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to a stringer.

12. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8, further comprising:

placing said container into an auto-clave; and

providing a temperature above ambient atmospheric temperature.

13. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 where said step of placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to said non-malleable portion of said second object comprises:

5 positioning said sheet where said sheet extends between a quarter inch and a half inch from said second object.

14. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 where said step of placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of said first object comprises:

5 placing a sheet of titanium foil having a thickness between five thousandth of an inch and ten thousandth of an inch adjacent to an uncured wing panel.

15. (withdrawn) A product of the process defined in Claim 8.

16. (currently amended) A method of curing an object comprising:  
providing an object having a malleable portion;  
placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of  
said object, wherein said sheet is rigid and substantially resists bending;

5 coupling said sheet to said object;  
placing said object and said sheet into a container; and  
removing gas from said container where bridging occurs;  
where said sheet provides pressure to said malleable portion.

17. (original) The method of Claim 16 where said step of removing gas from said container where bridging occurs comprises:

lowering pressure within said container where said bridging extends from a portion of said object to said sheet.

18. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 16 where said step of removing gas from said container where bridging occurs comprises:

lowering pressure within said container where said bridging extends from a first portion of said object to a second portion of said object.

19. (currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 16 where said step of coupling said sheet to said object comprises:~~

A method of curing an object comprising:  
providing an object having a malleable portion;  
5 placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of  
said object;  
coupling said sheet to said object by applying Sol-gel to said first  
side of said sheet [[:]] and coupling said sheet to said object[[:]];  
placing said object and said sheet into a container; and  
10 removing gas from said container where bridging occurs;  
where said sheet provides pressure to said malleable portion.

20. (withdrawn) A product of the process defined in Claim 16.

21. (currently amended) A method of joining a stringer and a panel,  
and curing portions of said panel, comprising:

providing said stringer;  
providing said panel;  
5 placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to an uncured portion of  
said wing panel, wherein said sheet substantially resists bending;  
placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to a cured portion of  
said stringer;  
placing said stringer, panel and sheet into a nylon bag; and  
10 removing gas from said nylon bag where bridging occurs.

22. (original) The method of Claim 21, where said bridging  
extends from said stringer to said sheet.

23. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 21, where said bridging  
extends from said stringer to said panel.

24. (currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 21 where said step of placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to an uncured portion of said panel comprises:~~

- 5     A method of joining a stringer and a panel, and curing portions of said panel, comprising:  
       providing said stringer;  
       providing said panel;  
       placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to an uncured portion of  
10    said wing panel, wherein said placing occurs by applying a film of Sol-gel  
       between said first side of said sheet and said uncured portion of said panel[[,  
       ]]and[[:]] joining said sheet to said uncured portion of said panel[[:.]];  
       placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to a cured portion of  
       said stringer;  
       placing said stringer, panel and sheet into a nylon bag; and  
15    removing gas from said nylon bag where bridging occurs.

25. (currently amended)The method of Claim 21 where said step of placing said stringer, panel and sheet into a nylon bag comprises:

       applying breather material between said stringer and said nylon bag sheet.

26. (currently amended)The method of Claim 21 where said step of placing said stringer, panel and sheet into a nylon bag comprises:

       applying a release film between said stringer and said nylon bag sheet.

27. (currently amended)~~The method of Claim 21 where said step of placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to an uncured portion of said panel comprises:~~

- A method of joining a stringer and a panel, and curing portions of  
5 said panel, comprising:  
    providing said stringer;  
    providing said panel;  
    placing a first side of a sheet of titanium having a thickness  
between 0.005 inches and 0.010 inches, adjacent to an uncured portion of  
10 said wing panel;  
    placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to a cured portion of  
    said stringer;  
    placing said stringer, panel and sheet into a nylon bag; and  
    removing gas from said nylon bag where bridging occurs.

28. (withdrawn) An article of manufacture comprising:  
    a first composite object having a resin portion and a fiber portion;  
    a second composite object having a resin portion and a fiber  
portion coupled to said first object; and  
5      a sheet disposed between said first composite object and said  
second composite object,  
    where said sheet lies adjacent to said resin portion of said first  
composite object and said resin portion of said second composite object.

29. (withdrawn) The article of manufacture of Claim 28 where said  
sheet has a coefficient of thermal expansion less than  $13.7 \times 10^{-6}$  inch/inch  
degree Fahrenheit.

30. (withdrawn) The article of manufacture of Claim 28 where said  
sheet extends between 0.25 inches and 0.50 inches from said second  
composite object.

31. (withdrawn) The article of manufacture of Claim 28 where said sheet has a thickness between 0.005 inches and 0.010 inches.

32. (withdrawn) An airplane wing comprising:  
a stringer having a resin portion;  
a wing panel having a resin portion coupled to said stringer; and  
a sheet disposed between said stringer and said wing panel;  
5 where said sheet lies adjacent to said resin portion of said stringer  
and said resin portion of said wing panel.

33. (withdrawn) The airplane wing of Claim 32 where said sheet has a coefficient of thermal expansion less than  $13.7 \times 10^{-6}$  inch/inch degrees Fahrenheit.

34. (withdrawn) The airplane wing of Claim 32 where said sheet extends between a quarter inch and a half inch from said second composite object.

35. (withdrawn) The airplane wing of Claim 32 where said sheet has a thickness between 0.005 inches and 0.010 inches.